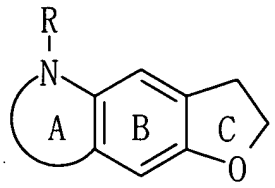
In the Claims

Please substitute the following claims 17, 19, 25-28, 33 and 34 for the claims 17, 19, 25-28, 33 and 34 now pending in the above-identified application.

1. (Original) A compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted,

Ring B is benzene ring which is further substituted,

Ring C is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and

R is hydrogen atom or an acyl group,

or a salt thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by an unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbon group.

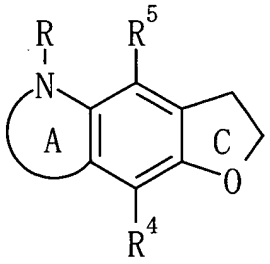
3. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by an unsubstituted or substituted lower alkyl group.

4. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing

heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by a lower alkyl group.

5. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by a lower alkyl group.

6. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1 which is represented by the formula:



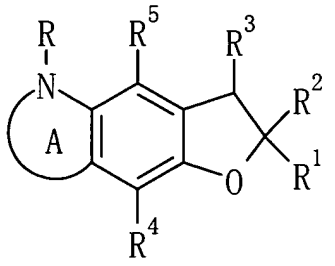
wherein R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each denotes hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, hydroxy group, amino group or a hydrocarbon group which may be bonded directly or via oxygen atom, nitrogen atom or sulfur atom and which may be substituted, and the other symbols are as defined in Claim 1, provided that both R^4 and R^5 are not hydrogen atoms at the same time, or a salt thereof.

7. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6, wherein R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each denotes a lower alkyl group or a lower alkoxy group.

8. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6, wherein each

of R^4 and R^5 is a lower alkyl group.

9. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1 which is represented by the formula:



wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each denotes hydrogen atom, an unesterified, esterified, unamidated or amidated carboxyl group or an unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbon group, R^3 is hydrogen atom, an unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbon group or an unsubstituted or substituted amino group, and the other symbols are as defined in Claim 5, or a salt thereof.

10. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 9, wherein R^1 is a lower alkyl group, R^2 is a lower alkyl group which may be substituted by a halogen atom, hydroxy group or an unsubstituted or substituted cyclic amino group and R^3 is hydrogen atom or an unsubstituted or substituted phenyl group.

11. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 9, wherein R^1 is a lower alkyl group, R^2 is a lower alkyl group which may be substituted by a halogen atom, hydroxy group or an unsubstituted or

substituted cyclic amino group, R^3 is hydrogen atom or an unsubstituted or substituted phenyl group, each of R^4 and R^5 is a lower alkyl group, and Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by a lower alkyl group.

12. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 9, wherein R^1 is a lower alkyl group, R^2 is a lower alkyl group which may be substituted by a halogen atom, hydroxy group or unsubstituted or substituted cyclic amino group, R^3 is hydrogen atom or an unsubstituted or substituted phenyl group, each of R^4 and R^5 is a lower alkyl group, and Ring A is a non-aromatic 5-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by a lower alkyl group.

13. (Previously Presented) 8-Tert-butyl-3,5,6,7-tetrahydro-2,2,4,6,6-pentamethyl-2H-furo[2,3-f]indole or a salt thereof.

14. (Previously Presented) 3,5,6,7-Tetrahydro-2,4,8-trimethyl-2-[(4-phenylpiperidino)methyl]-2H-furo[2,3-f]indole or a salt thereof.

15. (Previously Presented) 3,5,6,7-Tetrahydro-2,4,6,6,8-pentamethyl-2-[(4-phenylpiperidino)methyl]-2H-furo[2,3-f]indole or a salt thereof.

16. (Previously Presented) 3, 5, 6, 7-Tetrahydro-2,2,4,8-tetramethyl-3-(4-methylphenyl)-2H-furo[2,3-f]indole or a salt thereof.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A prodrug of the compound according to Claim 1~~ **A prodrug capable of being converted into the compound of claim 1 as a result of a reaction under *in vivo* physiological conditions,**

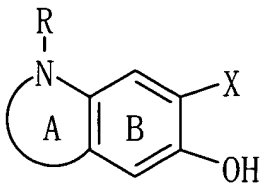
said prodrug resulting

from acylation, alkylation or phosphorylation of an amino group of a compound of claim 1,

from acylation, alkylation, phosphorylation or boration of a hydroxy group of a compound of claim 1,

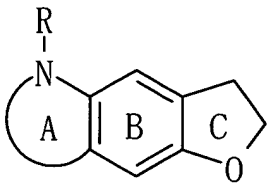
or from esterification or amidation of a carboxyl group of a compound of claim 1.

18. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing the compound according to Claim 1 or a salt thereof which comprises subjecting a substituent X and hydroxy group on Ring B of a compound represented by the formula:



wherein X is an unsubstituted or substituted allyl group, and the other symbols are as defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof to a ring-closure reaction.

19. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted,

Ring B is benzene ring which is further substituted,

Ring C is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and

R is hydrogen atom or an acyl group,

or a salt thereof ~~or a prodrug thereof~~ **or a prodrug capable of being converted into said compound as a result of a reaction under *in vivo* physiological conditions,**

said prodrug resulting

from acylation, alkylation or phosphorylation of an amino group of said compound,

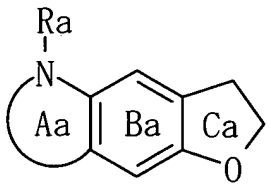
from acylation, alkylation, phosphorylation or boration of a hydroxy group of said compound,

or from esterification or amidation of a carboxyl group of said compound;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

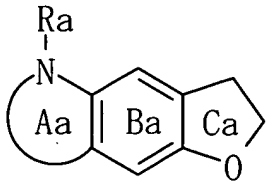
Claims 20-24 (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~preventing or~~ treating a cerebrovascular impairment which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:



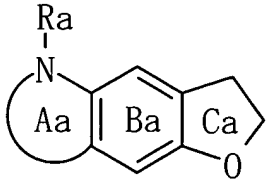
wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof ~~or a prodrug thereof~~ **or a prodrug capable of being converted into said compound as a result of a reaction under *in vivo* physiological conditions, said prodrug resulting from acylation, alkylation or phosphorylation of an amino group of said compound, from acylation, alkylation, phosphorylation or boration of a hydroxy group of said compound, or from esterification or amidation of a carboxyl group of said compound** to a mammal.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a dysuria or a urinary incontinence which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof ~~or a prodrug thereof~~ **or a prodrug capable of being converted into said compound as a result of a reaction under *in vivo* physiological conditions, said prodrug resulting from acylation, alkylation or phosphorylation of an amino group of said compound, from acylation, alkylation, phosphorylation or boration of a hydroxy group of said compound, or from esterification or amidation of a carboxyl group of said compound** to a mammal.

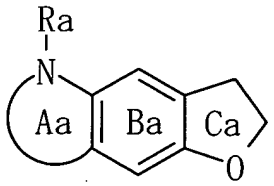
27. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~preventing or~~ treating a restenosis after a percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which

may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof ~~or a prodrug thereof~~ **or a prodrug capable of being converted into said compound as a result of a reaction under *in vivo* physiological conditions, said prodrug resulting from acylation, alkylation or phosphorylation of an amino group of said compound, from acylation, alkylation, phosphorylation or boration of a hydroxy group of said compound, or from esterification or amidation of a carboxyl group of said compound** to a mammal.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting lipid peroxidation which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound represented by the formula:

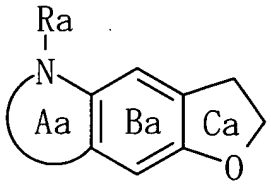


wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof ~~or a prodrug thereof~~ **or a prodrug capable of being converted into said compound as a result of a reaction under *in vivo* physiological conditions, said prodrug resulting from acylation, alkylation or phosphorylation of an amino group of said compound, from acylation, alkylation, phosphorylation or boration of a hydroxy**

group of said compound, or from esterification or amidation of a carboxyl group of said compound to a mammal.

Claims 29-32 (Cancelled)

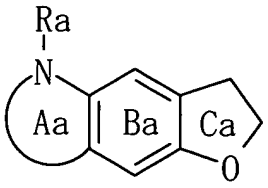
33. (Currently Amended) A method for treating cranial trauma which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which is further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof ~~**or a prodrug thereof**~~ **or a prodrug capable of being converted into said compound as a result of a reaction under *in vivo* physiological conditions, said prodrug resulting from acylation, alkylation or phosphorylation of an amino group of said compound, from acylation, alkylation, phosphorylation or boration of a hydroxy group of said compound, or from esterification or amidation of a carboxyl group of said compound** to a mammal.

34. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a neurodegenerative disease which comprises administering a compound represented by the

formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which is further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof ~~**or a prodrug thereof**~~ **or a prodrug capable of being converted into said compound as a result of a reaction under *in vivo* physiological conditions, said prodrug resulting from acylation, alkylation or phosphorylation of an amino group of said compound, from acylation, alkylation, phosphorylation or boration of a hydroxy group of said compound, or from esterification or amidation of a carboxyl group of said compound** to a mammal.